

Appl. No. : 10/009,916  
Filed : August 13, 2002

### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph in the Specification, beginning on page 58, line 28 as follows:

--The PCR amplifications consisted of 0.1 ng of plasmid template, 1  $\mu$ M each of the forward (RA167: 5' GGCCATGGGTACCACCACCACCACCTCTCTGTCTGTTACTTCAGAAGTCCAT ATG 3'; SEQ ID NO:4); and the reverse primer (~~RA175~~RA147: 5' GGCTCTAGAGGTATATAAATATAAAGAGGTATG 3'; SEQ ID NO:5); 7.5 units KlenTaqI polymerase (Ab Peptides, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri), 0.075 units *Pfu* polymerase (Stratagene Cloning Systems, La Jolla, California), 1 x PC2 (KlenTaqI) buffer and 0.2 mM dNTPs in a 50  $\mu$ l volume. PCR was carried out in 4 stages: (i) 94°C for 5 min (5'); (ii) 94°C for 1 min, 58°C for 30 seconds, 72°C for 1.5 min, x 33 cycles; (iii) 72°C for 10 min. (iv) hold at 4°C.--.

Please amend the paragraph in the Specification, beginning on page 59, line 6 as follows:

--The PCR fragment containing the SodC gene of *L. intracellularis* was subcloned into pCR2.1-TOPO (Invitrogen Corp., Carlsbad, CA) ~~and designated pALK14~~. The pCR2.1-TOPO intermediate plasmid was digested with NcoI and EcoRI and the 0.6 kb fragment excised therefrom was gel-purified and sub-cloned into NcoI-EcoRI-digested pET28b, to produce the PP-SS(-)SodC expression plasmid, pRL032. In this plasmid, the ATG start codon of PP-SS(-)SodC is directly downstream from the ribosome-binding site. The expression of the PP-SS(-)SodC protein from this plasmid is under control of the T7 promoter, which is inducible by IPTG. The plasmid was introduced into *E.coli* BL21 (DE3) cells for expression of the modified SodC protein.--